

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 57th Legislature (2020)

3 HOUSE BILL 3382

By: Waldron and Provenzano

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; creating the Oklahoma
8 Teacher Loan Repayment Program; directing the
9 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to
10 administer the program; providing educational loan
11 repayment awards to certain qualifying individuals;
12 distributing awards after certification and review of
13 application; providing eligibility requirements;
14 limiting amount of annual award; allowing participant
15 to resubmit application annually; authorizing the
16 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to accept
17 certain public and private funds; authorizing
18 contracts with other entities to perform certain
19 functions; creating the Oklahoma Teacher Loan
20 Repayment Program Revolving Fund; providing for
21 appropriations and expenditures; providing for
22 codification; providing an effective date; and
23 declaring an emergency.

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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

20 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
21 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2550 of Title 70, unless there
22 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

23 A. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Teacher Loan Repayment
24 Program, which will be in effect from the 2020-2021 school year

1 through the 2025-2026 school year. The Oklahoma State Regents for
2 Higher Education shall administer the program.

3 B. The program, depending upon and limited to available
4 funding, shall provide educational loan repayment awards to
5 individuals that meet the requirements in subsection D of this
6 section, as approved by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher
7 Education.

8 C. Each award shall be distributed to the participant by drafts
9 made payable to the participant or the appropriate loan agency.
10 Prior to any disbursement, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher
11 Education shall certify and properly review applications submitted
12 by the applicant and determine eligibility in accordance with
13 subsection D of this section.

14 D. An individual shall be eligible to participate annually in
15 the loan repayment program if the individual has:

16 1. Graduated after the effective date of this act from an
17 accredited or approved teacher education program at an institution
18 of higher education in this state; and

19 2. Been employed for one entire school year between the 2020-
20 2021 school year and the 2025-2026 school year as a district
21 superintendent, principal, supervisor, a counselor, librarian,
22 school nurse or classroom teacher or in any other instructional,
23 supervisory or administrative capacity at a Title I school in this
24 state. As used in this paragraph, "Title I school" means a public

1 school that receives funds pursuant to the Every Student Succeeds
2 Act of 2015, 20 U.S.C., Section 6301 et seq., and is obligated to
3 comply with the provisions of that federal law.

4 E. The amount of the award of educational loan repayment for a
5 single qualifying individual shall not exceed Four Thousand Dollars
6 (\$4,000.00). A participant may resubmit an application for loan
7 repayment and receive a loan repayment award every year for which he
8 or she is eligible.

9 F. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education may accept
10 donations of public or private funds to assist in funding the
11 Oklahoma Teacher Loan Repayment Program. The Oklahoma State Regents
12 for Higher Education may, at its discretion, contract with other
13 public entities and nonprofit corporations for the endowment,
14 management and administration of such funds.

15 G. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving
16 fund for the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to be
17 designated the "Oklahoma Teacher Loan Repayment Program Revolving
18 Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal
19 year limitations, and shall consist of all monies received by the
20 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education from public and private
21 sources. All monies accruing to the credit of said fund are hereby
22 appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the Oklahoma State
23 Regents for Higher Education for the purpose of providing
24 educational loan repayment assistance through the Oklahoma Teacher

1 Loan Repayment Program. Expenditures from said fund shall be made
2 upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as
3 prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of Management and
4 Enterprise Services for approval and payment.

5 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2020.

6 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
7 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
8 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
9 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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